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MAR 11 1964

Honorable Jacob K. Javits
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator:

I would like to acknowledge receipt of several communications regarding the work of this Commission which you have referred to this office for comment. I apologize for the delay in responding to your inquiry, but I am hopeful that events during this period of time will serve to clarify the position of the Commission on some of the issues raised by these letters.

As you know, this Commission was established by President Johnson to investigate and report upon all the facts and circumstances surrounding the assassination of President Kennedy and the subsequent murder of his alleged assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald. All facets of this matter will be investigated fully and reported upon by the Commission as requested by President Johnson. I would like to assure you and your correspondents that all allegations that Oswald was an informant or undercover agent for the Federal Bureau of Investigation or any other federal agency will be thoroughly investigated.

With regard to the issue of Mark Lane's participation in the hearings of the Commission, the Commission has decided that its mission would not be aided by such a procedure. Mr. Lane did appear before the Commission, however, in a public hearing on March 4, 1964, and the Commission will consider his observations carefully before the issuance of its final report. The Commission has not prejudged Lee Harvey Oswald's implication in the assassination, but is exploring all possibilities that other persons may be involved. We are making every effort to remain sensitive to the rights and reputation of Lee Harvey Oswald. For your information

cc: Mr. Willens - Chrono.
Mr. Rankin

I am enclosing the statement issued by the Commission announcing that the President of the American Bar Association has been appointed to assist the Commission in this effort.

As the events of the last few weeks have indicated, the press has interviewed Marina Oswald, who appeared before the Commission early last month. Neither the Federal Bureau of Investigation nor any other federal agency refused Mrs. Marguerite Oswald permission to see Marina Oswald. Ever since November 22, 1963, Marina Oswald has been free to see whomever she wishes to see.

The Chief Justice has authorized me to assure you that none of his remarks regarding the Commission were intended to suggest that the significant conclusions of fact developed by this investigation would not be made known to the American public. The final report of this Commission will be complete and documented by reference to relevent testimony and/or underlying investigative materials. At this point in the investigation there appears to be nothing of significance which should not be revealed to the American public because of national security or any other consideration. On March 4, 1964, the Chief Justice stated as follows:

> "The purpose of this Commission is, of course, eventually to make known to the President, and to the American public everything that has transpired before this Commission. All of it will be made available at the appropriate time. The records of the work of the Commission will be preserved for the public."

I hope that this letter is of some assistance to you in responding to this correspondence and I remain available to assist you in any way possible.

Sincerely,

J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel

Enclosure